

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS TECH, AR

SUBJECT UNCONFERENCE ON TECHNICAL COOPERATION AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

1. THE UNCTCDC CONFERENCE WILL TAKE PLACE IN BUENOS AIRES FROM AUGUST 30 TO SEPTEMBER 13 AND WILL BE HELD IN THE CULTURAL CENTER OF THE SAN MARTIN THEATRE. DELEGATES FROM ABOUT 150 U.N. COUNTRIES WILL BE PRESENT AND SIMULTANEOUS TRANSLATION WILL BE AVAILABLE IN SIX LANGUAGES. GENERAL JORGE POZZO WAS APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT LAST MARCH AS OFFICIAL ORGANIZER OF THE CONFERENCE AND WILL ALSO HEAD THE ARGENTINE DELEGATION. THE PRESIDENT OF THE CONFERENCE WILL BE CHOSEN AT THE FIRST SESSION.

2. GEN POZZO TOLD THE SCICOUNS THAT THE CONFERENCE WILL ENDEAVOR TO PREPARE A WORLD PLAN OF ACTION FOR THE EXPANSION OF NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC, TECHNICAL, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RELATIONS PARTICULARLY AMONG THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. HE SAID THE MEETING WILL GIVE THE WORLD GOVERNMENTS THE OPPORTUNITY TO ESTABLISH

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CONSULTATIONS AND COMMON IDEAS TO PROMOTE TECHNICAL COOPERATION AND SELF SUFFICIENCY AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. GEN POZZO INDICATED THAT ARGENTINA WILL PLAY A LOW KEY ARBITRATING ROLE AS THE HOST COUNTRY AND ENDEAVOR TO KEEP THE CONFERENCE ON A TECHNICAL LEVEL WITH AS LITTLE POLITICAL INTERVENTION AS POSSIBLE. HE SAID HE WAS ENCOURAGED FROM INFORMATION

HE RECEIVED FROM GENEVA THAT THE 77 WILL CHANNEL THEIR INTERESTS TOWARD TECHNICAL ASPECTS AND NOT POLITICS.

3. HE STATED THERE ARE ONLY A SMALL NUMBER OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES THAT ARE IN A POSITION TO TRANSFER TECHNOLOGY INCLUDING ARGENTINA AND MOST OF THE TECHNOLOGY WAS OBTAINED IN THE FIRST PLACE FROM THE TECHNICALLY ADVANCED COUNTRIES WHICH HE HOPED WOULD PLAY AN ACTIVE ROLE IN THE CONFERENCE. HE REFERRED AS A RECENT EXAMPLE TO THE TRANSFER OF NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY FROM ARGENTINA TO PERU AND OTHER LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES. THIS TECHNOLOGY WAS MOSTLY ACQUIRED FROM DEVELOPED COUNTRIES.

4. GEN POZZO AND OTHERS IN THE MFA SUCH AS AMB RAFAEL VAZQUEZ HAVE STATED THEY DO NOT WANT THIS CONFERENCE TO ESTABLISH JUST ANOTHER SUPERSTRUCTURE IN THE U.N. THAT WILL DEVELOP INTO A BUREAUCRATIC GIANT, COSTING LARGE AMOUNTS OF MONEY AND ACCOMPLISHING VERY LITTLE. THEY DO FEEL, HOWEVER, THAT THE U.N.

COULD ACT AS A CLEARING HOUSE OR FOCAL POINT FOR INFORMATION EXCHANGE AND TRANSFER WITHOUT ESTABLISHING ANY NEW STRUCTURE. THEY ALSO DO NOT FEEL THAT THIS WOULD TAKE THE PLACE, IN ANY WAY, OF PRESENT OR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FUTURE BILATERAL RELATIONSHIPS AMONG COUNTRIES, BUT ONLY ENHANCE AND PROMOTE THESE RELATIONSHIPS. ARGENTINE OFFICIALS FEEL THAT THEIR MAIN FUNCTIONS IN THE FUTURE TECHNICAL COOPERATION WOULD BE THE EXCHANGE OF CONSULTANTS, PROVISION OF EQUIPMENT, PROVISION OF FELLOWSHIPS FOR STUDY IN THE TECHNICAL AREAS AND MAKING TECHNICAL ASSESSMENTS FOR OTHER COUNTRIES ON DEVELOPMENT OF TECHNOLOGY. ARGENTINE EXPERTS FEEL THAT LA COUNTRIES SHOULD AGREE TO REGIONAL GEOGRAPHIC COOPERATION AND WORK COLLECTIVELY TOGETHER AND THEN WORK WITH THE DIFFERENT REGIONAL COUNTRIES AROUND THE WORLD IN AREAS OF MUTUAL INTEREST. THIS COULD ALSO INCLUDE MULTILATERAL PARTICIPATIONS. THEY FEEL SUCCESS CAN COME ONLY THROUGH THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE REAL NECESSITIES OF COUNTRIES AND WITH SOLID WELL THOUGHT OUT PLANS FOR TECHNICAL TRANSFER, PROVISION OF NEEDED EQUIPMENT, SUPPLIES, INFORMATION EXCHANGE, ETC.

5. IN ADDITION TO THE CONFERENCE ITSELF THERE WILL BE PARALLEL TECHNOLOGICAL MEETINGS. THESE MEETINGS WILL INCLUDE: 1) INDUSTRIAL AND AGRICULTURAL

TECHNOLOGY, COVERED BY THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY, AND NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURAL TECHNOLOGY; 2) WATER TECHNOLOGY IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES CHAIRED BY THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF WATER SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY; 3) COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY CHAIRED BY THE NATIONAL COMMISSION OF ATOMIC ENERGY; 4) EVALUATION AND ADMINISTRATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES, CHAIRED BY THE NATIONAL COMMISSION ON SPACE INVESTIGATIONS; 5) THE ROLE OF INSTITUTIONS IN CURRENT TECHNOLOGY, CHAIRED BY THE NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL RESEARCH. THERE WILL ALSO BE THREE OTHER PARALLEL MEETINGS ON: 1) TECHNICAL CONSULTATION AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES; 2) LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FINANCING OF THE ACTION PLAN; 3) TRAINING OF HUMAN RESOURCES. THE LATTER WILL BE CHAIRED BY THE ARGENTINE NATIONAL TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY.

6. A CENTER FOR TECHNICAL INFORMATION WIL BE ESTABLISHED FOR THE PURPOSE OF EXHIBITING ARGENTINA'S CAPACITY FOR PROVIDING TECHNOLOGY TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. THIS EXHIBITION WILL ALSO

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TAKE PLACE AT THE SAN MARTIN THEATRE. THE OBJECTIVE OF THE EXHIBITION IS TO SHOW THE TECHNICAL POTENTIAL OF ARGENTINA IN AREAS OF INTEREST TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES ATTENDING THE CONFERENCE. THESE AREAS WILL INCLUDE INDUSTRIAL EQUIPMENT, AGRICULTURE AND CATTLE, ELECTRONICS, WATER RESOURCES, CHEMISTRY AND PETROCHEMISTRY TECHNOLOGY, PEACEFUL USES OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND CONSULTING ACTIVITIES. SOME OF THE EXHIBITIONERS WILL BE THE NATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION, NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF AERONAUTICS, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF MILITARY FABRICATION, NATIONAL SPECE COMMISSION, ARGENTINE CHEMICAL AND PETROCHEMICAL INDUSTRIES, ELECTRONICS, AGRICULTURE AND CATTLE INDUSTRY.

7. COMMENTS. THE TCDC CONFERENCE HAS RECEIVED A GREAT DEAL OF PRESS AND OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT INTEREST LATELY WHEREAS A FEW MONTHS AGO IT WAS DIFFICULT TO FIND ANYONE WHO HAD EVEN HEARD OF IT. THE REALIZATION THAT REPRESENTATIVES OF 150 COUNTRIES WILL BE IN BUENOS AIRES FOR TWO WEEKS HAS DAWNED ON THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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GOVERNMENT THAT THIS IS AN EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY FOR ARGENTINA TO DISPLAY THEIR TECHNOLOGICAL WARES AND EXPERTISE AND ESTABLISH CONNECTIONS FOR HORIZONTAL TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY. A MEETING THAT SIX MONTHS AGO LOOKED LIKE IT MAY BE A DISASTER FROM ANORGANIZATIONAL AND PROGRAM STANDPOINT, AT LEAST FROM THE ARGENTIN SIDE HAS BEEN EXTREMELY WELL ORGANIZED. THE PARALLEL SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS AND EXHIBITIONS WILL BE OF PARTICULAR INTERST AND THE TECHNICAL PROGRAM ACTIVITIES SEEM TO BE EVOLVING INTO SOME INTERESTING REGIONAL TECHNICAL DEVELOPMENTS. THIS MEETING WILL CERTAINLY BEAR CLOSE OBSERVATION BY THE US DELEGATION.

8. THE EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE THE NAMES OF THE US DELEGATION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE ALONG WITH EXACT ARRIVAL DATES IN BUENOS AIRES, FLIGHT NUMBERS AND HOTEL REQUESTS, SO RESERVATIONS AND OTHER ARRANGEMENTS CAN BE MADE.

9. A SEPARATE TELEGRAM WILL COVER THE LOGISTIC SERVICES AVAILABLE BY THE CONFERENCE ADMINISTRATION. CASTRO

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